ADDRESS

OF THE

DEWAN OF MYSORE

TO THE REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY HELD AT MYSORE,

On Thursday, the 15th October 1891.

GENTLEMEN,

By command of His Highness the Maharaja, I have much pleasure in welcoming you to this Assembly, which meets here to-day for the first time under the election system sanctioned last year. You come here as the duly elected Representatives of the Agricultural, the Industrial and the Commercial interests of the State. Last year, when His Highness was pleased to grant the valued privilege of election, he was not without some misgiving as to how the experiment would succeed, but it is most gratifying to His Highness that, though unused to the system, the electoral body have been able, in the very first year of its existence, to exercise the privilege with so much judgment and sense of responsibility as to send to this Assembly men in every way qualified to speak on their behalf. That men representing the capital, the industry and the intellect of the country should have already taken so much interest in the working of the scheme augurs well for the future of the Institution. His Highness asks me to take this opportunity publicly to acknowledge the expressions of warm gratitude which have reached him from all sides for the privilege of election granted last year.

With the above message to you from His Highness the Maharaja, I now proceed to read to you the Statements of the Revenue and Expenditure of the past year. These statements differ from those of previous years in excluding all payments on account of the State Railway, as it is considered more convenient to reserve Railway Income and Expenditure for separate treatment.

Receipts.

		1889—90.	1890—91.
		Rs.	Rs.
Land Revenue ...	Land Revenue proper	89,21,826	87,12,705
	Rent from Salt-pans	33,808	22,489
	Interest on arrears	36,868	25,938
	Total Land Revenue...	89,92,502	87,61,132
Excise		17,62,566	20,28,076
Forest		13,68,866	14,46,012
Stamps		5,92,847	5,79,936
Sayer		4,16,081	3,88,586
Mohatarfa		3,58,115	3,39,063
Law and Justice including Jail Receipts		73,541	71,173
Post Office		2,132	...
Registration		64,916	66,529
Amrut Mahal		39,164	34,162
Education		33,194	43,632
Public Works		15,792	16,687
Gold Mining ...	(a) Five per cent Royalty	1,96,638	2,34,341
	(b) Premia and deposits on new leases	0	71,225
Medical		8,739	6,286
Scientific and other Minor Departments		13,568	6,052
Profit and loss on Investment in Government Pro-Notes		720	14,270
Interest on Investment in Government Pro-Notes		2,25,265	2,49,400
Interest on Current Deposit, Madras Bank		51,818	60,337
Miscellaneous		77,819	92,607
	Total.....	1,42,94,283	1,45,08,506

Expenditure.

A.

Subsidy	24,50,000	24,50,000
Civil List	13,00,000	13,00,000
Political pensions including allowance in lieu of Jaghir	1,00,640	1,00,129
Military Force	7,36,266	7,55,837
Total.....	45,86.906	46,05,966

B.

Administration and Public Departments	2,28,829	2,74,123
Land Revenue Charges—		
Deputy Commissioners and Establishments	1,66,092	1,72,441
Assistant Commissioners and Establishments	60,076	67,317
Taluk Establishments	3,19,916	3,14,985
Revenue Survey	1,86,654	1,76,966
Inam Department	7,793	7,829
Remuneration of Village Servants	5,53,803	5,41,313
Other items.	36,727	40,154
Excise	55,213	60,274
Forest	5,14,821	6,28,914
Stamps	21,197	19,948
Sayer	13,729	14,427
Stationery and Printing	79,284	85,533
Amrut Mahal	27,585	27,934
Scientific and other Minor Departments	76,556	64,736
Total.....	23,48,275	42,49,689

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	1889-90. Rs.	1890-91 Rs.
Law and Justice including Jails	7,55,369	6,73,613
Police	6,22,801	6,77,871
Education	2,61,770	3,02,729
Muzarayi	2,78,663	2,82,559
Medical	1,75,406	1,96,590
Superannuation pensions and gratuities	2,67,873	2,90,191
Public Works	21,91,404	19,90,629
Post Office	16,664	3,437
Registration	29,563	32,201
British Officers' furlough and absentee allowances, retiring gratuities, Compensation allowances and leave and pensionary contribution	23,019	34,092
Interest on Mysore Savings Bank Deposits	57,503	58,666
Refunds	66,014	3,33,988
Purchase and Repair of Tents	14,839	6,556
Census	...	18,853
Profit & Loss on Investment in Government Pro-Notes	28,198	21,982
Miscellaneous	61,343	85,232
Total...	48,50,429	51,09,189
Grand Total...	117,85,610	122,12,049

State Income and Expenditure.—It will be seen from the first of the statements I have just now read, that the Revenue during the last year (145 lakhs) was the largest ever realized by the State. The revenue of 1889-90—about 143 lakhs—was itself an exceptional rise of some 11 lakhs as compared with 1888-89, and now we have a still further improvement of two lakhs.

Turning to examine the principal items of revenue, we find that the Land Revenue realized was only Rs. 87,12,000 against Rs. 89,21,000 in 1889-90, though the Land Revenue Demand for both years was nearly the same (Rs. 85,43,000 in 1890-91 and 85,25,000, in 1889-90). The decreased realizations of 1890-91 were due altogether to the fact that more of the arrears of previous years was collected in 1889-90 than in 1890-91. (Rs. 9,95,000 and Rs. 6,09,000 respectively).

Under "Excise," there was an increase of Rs. 2,65,000, of which Rs. 2,24,000 was under Toddy owing to the larger amounts for which the farms of the various

Districts had been let under the new contracts which came into force on 1st April 1890. The remainder of the increase was under Arrack.

Under "Forests" also, there was a considerable increase, namely Rs. 77,000. Larger sales of timber and sandalwood and miscellaneous receipts together brought an increased revenue of Rs. 1,23,000, which however was reduced by a falling-off of Rs. 27,000 under Railway fuel owing to the discontinuance (at a saving of Rs. 33,000 in cost) of the supply by direct Government agency, and of Rs. 14,800 in Khedda receipts owing to the price of elephants sold not being wholly credited in the year's accounts.

Under "Gold Mining," there was an increase of Rs. 37,000 in the amount of royalty realized, while "Premia and Deposits on leases," a new item which did not occur in the previous year, brought in Rs. 71,000.

The mines in the Kolar Gold Field during 1890 extracted 106,903 ounces of gold of the value of Rs. 54,03,595. The mines which showed a considerable increase of production over the previous year's return were only three, namely :—

Mysore, with 58,183 oz., against 49,238 oz. in 1889,
Urigam, with 27,351 oz., against 16,457 oz. in 1889,
and Nandidroog, with 15,637 oz., against 6,129 oz. in 1889.

The other mines in the Kolar field, as well as the Harnhalli mine, are still in process of being developed, while very little work is reported from mines elsewhere.

The Investment account, as in the previous year, consisted of two principal items—(*a*) Interest and Premia on Government of India Pro-Notes and Mysore Railway Debentures, Rs. 2,63,670, and (*b*) Interest on deposits at the Madras Bank, Rs. 60,337.

The Mohatarfa realizations show a small falling-off owing to the exemption from House-tax of non-resident raiyats, while the decreased production of arecanut in the Shimoga and Kadur Districts owing to the disease known as *Kole Roga* somewhat affected the Sayer Revenue of the year. Under "Stamps" also, there was a decrease as compared with the figures of the previous year which contained some large exceptional items on account of stamp fees on Gold Mining leases.

The other items of Revenue call for no special remark.

The total expenditure of the year, exclusive of payments on account of Railway loans, amounted to Rs. 122,12,000, being an increase of Rs. 4,26,000 over that of the previous year. The increase has occurred chiefly under the following items :—

Rs.	
45,295	Under "Administration and Public Departments," including the Government House at Mysore.
1,14,093	Under "Forests," including Elephant Kheddas. In conservancy and working charges (owing chiefly to the larger collection of sandolwood, which accounts for an increase of Rs. 28,000), the total increase was Rs. 30,000, while to the improvement of the subordinate and office establishments was due an increased expenditure of Rs. 4,000. Under Elephant Kheddas, there was the large increase of Rs. 79,000, of which Rs. 72,000 was on account of 17 elephants imported from Burmah. The Khedda operations will, it is hoped, soon be so developed as to become financially remunerative.
18,244	Under "Law and Justice," owing to the establishment of certain new Courts, namely those of the—

	Rs.
District Judge, Bangaloro	7,198
Additional Munsiff	5,075
and Railway Magistrate	7,096

55,070 Under "Police," owing chiefly—

	Rs.
To the cost of the Railway Police and the Origam Special Police being incurred for the entire year ...	16,000
To the transfer of the Mysore Town Police from the Municipal to State Funds	26,077
To the formation of an armed Reserve force at Shimoga and Bangalore	9,294
And to the improvement of the Bangalore Town Police ...	1,000

40,959 Under "Education," owing to new Schools, both direct and aided.

21,184 Under "Medical," chiefly on account of medicines purchased, some purchases of the previous years also being adjusted in the year under retrospect.

22,318 Under "Pensions and Gratuities," owing to the gratuities paid to runners belonging to the abolished Anche, the adjustment during the year of pensions paid from the British Treasury for 13 months and some retirements among the higher officers, such as the Chief Judge, Legislative Secretary, &c.

2,67,944 Under "Refunds," because 3 lakhs were refunded to the Irrigation Cess Fund in adjustment of previous years' omissions. The amount thus refunded being expended by the D. P. W. on Irrigation works, there was a corresponding decrease in D. P. W. expenditure from State Funds.

18,853 On account of the new Department temporarily entertained for the Census of 1891.

23,889 Under various miscellaneous items.

Having thus explained the principal variations in the income and expenditure of the past two years, I wish now to invite your attention to statements of the gross and net income and expenditure which give a comprehensive view of the net financial results of the past two years.

No. I.—Statement of Gross and Net Income 1890-91.

GENERAL.

No. II.—Statement of Gross and Net Expenditure 1890-91.

Heads of Revenue.	Gross Receipts, 1890—91.	Charges, 1890—91.	Net Receipts, 1890—91.	Net Receipts, 1889—90.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Land Revenue, including rent on Salt-pans & Interest on arrears	87,61,132	11,36,210	76,24,922	78,55,888
2. Mohatarfa	3,38,063	...	3,38,063	3,58,115
3. Gold Mining—				
(a) Five per cent Royalty	2,34,341	...	2,34,341	1,96,638
(b) Premia, &c, on new leases	71,225	...	71,225	0
Total Gold Mining.....	3,05,566	...	3,05,566	1,96,638
4. Forests—				
(a) Sandalwood	9,37,730	1,24,413	8,13,317	7,99,968
(b) Timber, plantations, fuel, &c.	4,71,994	3,53,068	1,18,926	70,503
(c.) Elephant Kheddas	36,288	1,51,435	—1,15,145	—16,426
Total Forests	14,46,012	6,28,914	8,17,098	8,54,045
5. Excise	20,28,076	60,273	19,67,803	17,07,353
6. Sayer	2,88,586	14,427	3,74,159	4,02,352
7. Stamps	5,79,936	19,948	5,59,988	5,71,650
8. Registration	66,529	32,201	34,328	35,353
9. Amrut Mahal	34,162	27,934	6,228	11,579
10. Interest on Investments	3,09,737	...	3,09,737	2,77,083
11. Sundry other sources of income	84,202	...	84,202	69,695
Total....	143,42,001	19,19,907	124,22,094	123,58,751
Deduct—				
Refunds ... (a.) Ordinary			—33,988	—66,014
(b.) Extraordinary, being adjustment of Irrigation Cess account of past years			—3,00,000	0
Add—				
Recovery of amount spent in previous years on the survey of the Mysore-Nanjangud Railway			+7,762	0
Deduct also—				
Subsidy and Political Pensions			—25,50,129	—25,50,640
Net Revenue			95,45,739	97,23,097
Deduct Net Expenditure as per Statement No. II			72,41,520	72,14,424
Surplus			23,04,219	25,08,673

Heads of Expenditure.	Gross Expenditure, 1890—91.	Income, 1890—91.	Net Expenditure, 1890—91.	Net Expenditure, 1889—90.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Interest on Savings Bank Deposits	58,666	...	58,666	57,503
2. Civil Establishment included under Administration, Inam Department and Revenue Survey	4,58,918	...	4,58,918	4,23,276
3. Stationery and Printing	85,534	4,838	80,696	75,017
4. Palace Charges	13,00,000	...	13,00,000	13,00,000
5. Judicial Charges { Court	6,99,502	53,469	6,46,033	6,16,875
Prisons	74,111	17,704	56,407	64,953
6. Police	6,77,871	3,567	6,74,304	6,18,944
7. Post Office	3,437	...	3,437	14,532
8. Education	3,02,729	43,632	2,59,097	2,28,576
9. Muzarâyi	2,82,559	...	2,82,559	2,78,663
10. Medical	1,96,590	6,286	1,90,304	1,66,667
11. Minor Departments	83,589	6,052	77,537	62,988
12. Civil Furlough Allowances, &c.	34,092	...	34,092	23,019
13. Pensions	2,90,191	..	2,90,191	2,67,873
14. Miscellaneous	91,788	...	91,788	76,182
15. Military	7,55,837	...	7,55,837	7,36,266
16. Loss on Surplus Investment Account	21,982	14,270	7,712	27,478
Total Ordinary.....	54,17,396	1,49,818	52,67,578	50,38,812
17. Public Works	19,90,629	16,687	19,73,942	21,75,612
Total including Public Works.....	74,08,025	1,66,505	72,41,520	72,14,424

RAILWAYS.

Railway Receipts—	1890—91.	1889—90.
(A.) State Railway built with borrowed capital and under management of Southern Mahratta Railway Company—		
Receipts, being $\frac{4}{5}$ths of Net earnings	1,24,987	* 1,78,756
Payments as per Statement No. II.	11,10,946	12,10,298
Net Expenditure (A) Railway.....	9,85,959	10,31,542
(B.) State Railway built with State Funds.—		
Receipts	0	0
Payments as per Statement No. II.	53,628	1,541
Net Expenditure (B) Railway.....	53,628	1,541
Grand Total Net Expenditure Railways.....	10,39,587	10,33,083

Railway Payments—	1890—91.	1889—90.
(A.) State Railway built with borrowed capital and under management of Southern Mahratta Railway Company—		
(a.) Mysore Railway Loans Redemption Fund	4,00,000	4,00,000
(b.) Interest on Mysore Railway Loan of 20 Lakhs	1,00,770	1,11,907
(c.) Interest on English Railway Loan of £ 1,200,000	6,10,176	6,98,391
Total Payments (A) Railway.....	11,10,946	12,10,298
(B.) State Railway built with State Funds—		
Capital outlay Bangalore-Hindupur Line	53,628	1,541
Total Payments (B) Railway.....	53,628	1,541
Grand Total Payments.....	11,64,574	12,11,839

* Exclude Miscellaneous payments to Southern Mahratta Railway Company Rs. 818.

You will see, from these statements, that under all heads of Revenue, after deducting charges of collection, the net receipts amounted to Rs. 124,22,000 against Rs. 123,40,000 in 1889-90; that there occurred large increases under "Gold Mining," "Excise" and "Interest on investments" as already explained at some length; that as against these increases, there was a considerable falling-off in "Land Revenue" and small decreases in minor items of income, and that the Revenue Receipts of the year were in the net result nearly one lakh better than in 1889-90. But if we deduct from the net Revenue Receipts, Refunds, Subsidy and Political Pensions, the net revenue of the year was only Rs. 95,45,739 against Rs. 97,23,097, owing to the refund of 3 lakhs to the irrigation cess Fund as already explained—an item which is not likely to recur.

From the net revenue receipts as above, has been met the net expenditure on account of His Highness the Maharaja's Civil List, the General Administration, Judicial Tribunals, Police, Military Forces, Public Works and charges of other Departments which are not sources of revenue. The aggregate of such net expenditure was very slightly in excess of the amount for the previous year (Rs. 72,41,520 in 1890-91 against Rs. 72,14,424 in 1889-90), and after deducting it from net revenue receipts, the surplus which accrued was Rs. 23,04,219 as compared with Rs. 25,08,673 in 1889-90.

Railway Income and Expenditure.—I have so far not taken into consideration the Receipts and Payments on account of the State Railway. Three-fourths of the net earnings of the Mysore-Haribar system received from the Southern Mahratta Railway Company amounted only to Rs. 1,24,987 as compared with the 1,79,574 received in 1889-90. The net earnings of 1890-91 appear to have amounted to 2,63,221, but the actual credits given to the Darbar during the year were in respect of the earnings of 12 months from October 1889 to September 1890, and amounted only to Rs. 1,24,987.

Against this Income, the Darbar have made the following payments:—

	Rs.
Contribution to the Mysore Railway Loans Redemption Fund	4,00,000
Interest on the Mysore Railway Loan of 20 Lakhs	1,00,770
Interest on the English Railway Loan of £1,200,000	6,10,176
Total...	11,10,946

Deducting Railway earnings from the amount of payments as above, we find that the net expenditure of the year on account of the State Railway built with borrowed capital was Rs. 9,85,959 as compared with a similar expenditure of Rs. 10,31,512 in 1889-90. With the addition of the cost of the Bangalore-Hindupur Railway, now under construction by the State, the total Railway net expenditure amounted to Rs. 10,39,537, thus reducing the surplus of the year (Rs. 23,04,219) to Rs. 12,64,632.

Cash balance.—This surplus added to the opening balance of Rs. 92,11,424, gave on 31st March 1891 a closing balance of Rs. 104,76,056. Out of this, Rs. 58,85,200 were in investments in Government of India Pro-Notes and Mysore Railway Debentures, and the balance Rs. 45,90,856 in cash, held in Government Treasuries and in current Deposit in the Madras Bank. In addition to the above closing balance of ordinary State Funds, there was on the last day of the year, a sum of Rs. 10,28,463 to the credit of the Railway Loans Redemption Fund.

The Budget excluding all Railway Receipts and Payments.—The Budget for the current year as finally revised estimates for an income of Rs. 139,59,000 as compared

with an actual of Rs. 1,45,08,000 in the previous year. It provides for an expenditure of Rs. 1,22,56,000 and the anticipated surplus is thereforeabout 17 lakhs. The amount of the estimated expenditure is very nearly the same as the actuals of the previous year; yet there are included in it a few items, to which it is desirable to request your attention. The Civil List of His Highness the Maharaja has been raised from 13 to 14 lakhs per annum with effect from 1st June 1891 and from the same date, the expenditure on account of certain Muzarayi Institutions (Rs. 20,460 per annum) and the Palace Infantry and the Body-Guard, (Rs. 67,840 per annum) have been transferred from the Palace to the State Budget. Provision for these additional charges for ten months of the current year (amounting to Rs. 1,56,910) has been made in the revised Budget. The transfer of Her Highness the Maharani's Girls' School to Government management, the proposed Oriental Library of Sanskrit and Kannada literature, the organization of a Regiment of Cavalry for Imperial service, the Census Department, the new Courts established last year, all contribute to an additional expenditure of about Rs. 1,60,000 which is shown in the revised Budget. The D. P. W. grant has, as in previous years, been fixed at 20 lakhs.

Railway Budget.—From the State Railway under the management of the Southern Mahratta Railway Company, a revenue of Rs. 2,97,000 is anticipated, while the provision made for payments on account of the same Railway (towards the Redemption fund and Interest on borrowed capital) amounts to Rs. 11,29,000. On the Bangalore-Hindupur Railway under construction by the State, an expenditure of 15 lakhs is provided, while Rs. 4,000 have been given for surveying a branch to connect the Kolar Road Station with the Kolar Gold mines. Thus the next expenditure of the year on Railways will amount to over Rs. 23¼ lakhs, while the ordinary State revenue is expected to yield a surplus of 17 lakhs.

Public Works.—Railways.—I have next to request your attention to the working of some of the principal Departments of the State. The Department that I shall first refer to is that of Public Works to which is devoted the largest proportion of our resources. In the administration of this Department, the item that will most interest you is, I believe, our new Railways. I informed you last year that the Bangalore-Hindupur Railway had been definitely sanctioned. Since then, work has been vigorously taken in hand and I am glad to say excellent progress has been made all along the line. There is every reason to hope that it will be opened to traffic as far as Dodballapur by April next. Works have been most satisfactorily pushed forward on the difficult ghat beyond Dodballapur—the link on which it was apprehended there would be difficulties and delay. From the foot of the ghat to Goribidnur, work has not as yet advanced far, but this section was the last one to take in hand and on it the work will be comparatively easy, with the exception perhaps of the Pinakini bridge which involves well-sinking and the erection of large iron girders. Materials for the permanent way are daily arriving from England. I may add here that under a system of competition by means of tenders, we were able to obtain very favorable terms for these materials from first class firms in England and what they supply is of the best quality. The sleepers are being brought over from our own Forests. So far then, we have reason to congratulate ourselves on what has been done on this Railway.

The extension to Nanjangud has been all but completed and will shortly be opened for public traffic.

Amongst other Railway matters which have engaged the attention of Government during the last year, is a project for a link to connect the Madras Railway

from Bowringpet with the Kolar Gold Fields. A broad gauge line, which will obviate break of bulk and be in every way a greater convenience to the public and which will be worked by the Madras Railway with their own stock and on very favorable terms, is the one which has commended itself to us as the best. The Survey has been made by the Railway branch of our Public Works Department and the estimates and plans are now being prepared. I hope we shall be in a position to undertake actual work in the course of the next few months, should our negotiations with the Madras Railway Company be carried through to a successful issue.

In addition to the above, our operations next year will embrace the preliminary survey of the branch contemplated from Birur to Shimoga. This extension will be of the greatest importance to the Province and should it be finally sanctioned, I hope to be able to allot funds for it in the course of the coming year. That Chikmagalur and Hassan ought, at an early date, to be connected with the Railway will be admitted by every one, but it is not equally easy to determine on the best points of junction, the best routes to follow or the feasibility of a single branch to serve both Chikmagalur and Hassan. This subject will engage our attention during the next few months. However these details may be settled, I need not assure you that as regards our main Railway policy, there will be no pause in the [illegible] of development which we have mapped out for the administration and, should [illegible] condition continue to improve as it has done, the next decade will see the Province intersected by lines which, in the decade proceeding the Rendition, were only thought of as remote possibilities.

Ordinary Public Works.—On Public Works other than Railways, the aggregate outlay during the year amounted to Rs. 29,31,882. Distributed under the several heads of service, it was as follows :—

	Rs.
Military buildings	31,355
Civil buildings	3,09,258
Communications	8,82,679
Irrigation works	10,19,529
Miscellaneous Public Improvements	1,60,049
Tools and Plant	26,305
Establishment	4,88,797
	29,17,972
Suspense account	13,910
	29,31,882

Out of the above total amount, Rs. 19,90,630 were provided from the State Revenue, Rs. 4,98,318 from District Funds and Rs. 4,42,934 from the Irrigation Cess Fund.

The programme of works put before you in 1889 continues to be the basis on which the Public Works Department carries forward its projects, modified of course when items of that programme are shown to be impracticable or too costly or distinctly unremunerative.

Under communications, the bridge across the Tunga has been practically completed ; that over the Bhadra has not made such good progress as was expected and the main difficulties in connection with the Belur bridge, that is, the pier foundations, have been satisfactorily overcome, so that all the remaining arches can be turned this season. For the Cauvery bridge at Yedatore, the project and estimate are now under preparation and will be shortly ready. The location of the bridge

near the town and the number of spans, size and height of arches, &c., have all been decided on in such a way as will permit of the bridge being used by a possible future Railway. The bridge across the Hemavati at Holé-Narsipur will next receive our attention.

And as regards our roads, I have had statements prepared for your information which show that during the last 10 years, 471 miles of entirely new roads have been opened out and more or less completed in the various Districts, whilst 218 miles of incomplete roads which came to us at the Rendition have been fully completed. I say advisedly that the above 471 miles of newly opened roads have been completed *more or less*, because, I wish you to understand that whilst many of them have been entirely finished, some of them, though open to traffic, have still to be worked out to standard by bridging, tunnelling, metalling, &c., on which progress is being pushed forward all round. On these new roads, an aggregate outlay of Rs. 10,84,709 has been incurred from Provincial and District Funds, and some of them are important Railway feeders on which the development of our Railway traffic mainly depends. I may, in this connection, also mention that the Government have passed orders on the subject of opening out the Western Malnad of Sagar. The Hinne Ghat has been decided upon as giving easy and ready access to the market at Gersoppa, and I believe that the majority of the raiyats in the Malnad were in favor of this Ghat. The two roads now on hand, one starting from Avinahalli and the other from Talguppa, will afford an excellent outlet for the Supari of the Western Malnad and remove one of the many grievances of the raiyats of this tract.

Our large Irrigation works now in hand are simply those commenced in former years and referred to in my last address; these have been advanced towards completion. No new schemes of any great importance have been matured though several are in course of preparation. Last year, I alluded specially to the large irrigation scheme known as the Kalnathpur Channel project. Although the Government have had before them for some time the opinions of the various Officers consulted on the subject, a definite decision as to its final rejection or sanction has not been come to. The work is one involving both sanitary and financial considerations of wide effect, requiring most careful thought before final orders can be passed on it, but I may add that there exist several irrigation projects of equal magnitude which promise equally good, if not better, financial results than the Kalnathpur project.

I also alluded last year to the difference which had arisen with the Madras authorities as to the rights of Mysore to the full use of its drainage areas. I informed you that the question had been laid before the Government of India. No ruling on the points at issue has been issued as yet, but I am happy to inform you that the basis for a solution of the difficulty has been arranged with the Madras Government in a way that is likely to remove, to a considerable extent, the check that the progress of our Irrigation works had received in tracts bordering upon the Madras Presidency.

Though not connected with the Public Works Department, I may refer in this place to the subject of well-irrigation which, for protective value in times of drought and local prosperity in ordinary time, is far superior to ordinary works of tank Irrigation. During the last famine, the only oases in the midst of the general desolate appearance of the country were, besides the tracts watered by our river channels, those special regions favored with well-irrigation. The disappearance of surface springs in localities where they formerly existed and the general lowering of the spring level in our northern and north-eastern Taluks, which have taken place during recent

years, have indicated the need for exceptional activity in the construction of new Irrigation wells on a large scale. Want of capital and the almost usurious interest at which alone money can be had in the market have, where all other conditions were favorable, been the cause of the raiyat's inability to provide himself with Irrigation wells. Under such circumstances, His Highness' Government have resolved to make advances for the sinking of wells at a nominal rate of interest, repayable by easy instalments in a long series of years, and as the procedure under which such advances can be obtained has been made exceedingly simple, as no further security is demanded than the well and the land it irrigates, as exemption to the raiyat from enhanced assessment on the ground of the well has been guaranteed, while the risk of its failure has been undertaken by the Government and as a special officer has been appointed to give the advances on the spot without the delay of circuitous correspondence through the usual official channel, His Highness the Maharaja hopes that the agricultural population will not be slow to avail themselves of the benefit which is thus offered to them and that, year after year, the area under well-irrigation will expand till in the near future every spot where well-irrigation is possible will have its own well, and thereby become the centre of an extra source of food-supply.

Forests.—Turning next to the Forest Department, we find the area brought under regular planting during the past year in the several Districts was 2,442 acres or about 4 square miles. The total area of Plantations stocked during the past five years has amounted to 9,500 acres or about 15 square miles. The planting operations this year have been somewhat retarded by the unfavorable character of the season.

You will be glad to hear that orders have been issued for the demarcation of the jungles in the Western Malnad of Sagar and Nagar with a view to allotments being made for Kumri. The Government trust that with the introduction of Kumri on a limited scale, the garden owner of the Malnad will obtain the much-needed relief from wild animals, the Bachehula and other pests, and will also be able to secure labor on easier terms and in greater quantity than he is now able to command. It may also be possible to utilize the system of Kumri for purposes of eliminating from Forests inferior kinds of trees and replacing them by valuable species by insisting that Kumri cultivators, when they clear fresh patches for cereal cultivation, should sow with their crops a certain quantity of seeds of trees yielding timber and forest produce. This, it is believed, they will cheerfully do, if they are paid for the healthy seedlings grown by them.

Sandalwood has, year after year, been yielding an increased revenue. The Forest Department has been unremitting in its attention to the reproduction of sandalwood and to the proper conservancy of this valuable source of revenue.

Government have passed rules regarding fuel required by the raiyats and certain Mohatarfa-paying classes. From the District Forests, reasonable provision will be made for the requirements of villagers, and the remaining jungles, wherever their situation is favorable, will be constituted Fuel Reserves. The rates fixed for fuel are moderate, and will not press hard on the people. It has been already announced that the system of levying seigniorage at the gates of towns has been abolished. Government Reserves cannot possibly be expected to satisfy fully the growing demand for fuel. It is satisfactory to note that in the vicinity of populous centres, notably Bangalore and portions of the Railway line where the price of fuel has risen, private capitalists are forming numerous fuel plantations.

New rules have also been passed defining the privileges of raiyats in regard to wood and bamboos required for agricultural purposes and for houses and cattle sheds. They have been conceived in a liberal spirit and it is trusted they will meet the complaints the raiyats have made from year to year both from the Malnad and the Maidan Taluks.

Soppinbettas.—The raiyats of the Malnad Taluks will be gratified to hear that Government have decided to grant full rights in their Soppinbettas to such garden owners as may have defined tracts attached to their gardens. With a view to allotting Soppinbettas to each Survey number of garden where no such allotment now exists, a Survey party was deputed last year to the Shimoga District. The garden owners will be free to cut all kinds of timber in their Bettas, except sandal and teak. The privileges conceded are large. I would call on the Representatives of Shimoga and Kadur Districts to explain to the Malnad raiyats that such large concessions have been made under the belief that they will conduce to the better conservancy and improvement of the existing Bettas and that Government looks to them to exercise the privilege with great moderation and care.

Khaddas.—In January last, three drives were made on different dates in the Kakankote Forest and 70 elephants in all were captured; some of these died shortly afterwards. Out of 44 elephants retained, 41 (of which 14 were tuskers) were taken to Tellicherry this time and sold there for Rs. 50,705.

Education.—The last year has been one of increased activity and marked progress in education. The number of Public Institutions increased from 1,441 to 1,596 or by 10·7 per cent, and the number of pupils increased from 66,501 to 72,970 or by 9·7 per cent. Of the Public Institutions, 1,410 were Government schools, 2 were Municipal schools, 156 were Aided schools and 28 were Unaided schools. By the side of the Public Institutions, there were 1,814 private indigenous schools with 23,457 pupils. The total number of all schools was 3,410 and of pupils 96,427. The increase in the number of Government schools during the year was 152. Of the new schools, 97 were Hobli schools, 46 other Vernacular schools and 8 were English schools.

The total expenditure on Education (inclusive of new buildings) from all sources was Rs. 6,39,737, to which the State Funds contributed Rs. 3,17,552, the Local Funds Rs. 1,59,730, Municipal Funds Rs. 19,365, Fees Rs. 60,013 and other sources Rs. 83,077. The total amount spent on Grants-in-aid was Rs. 68,699, of which Rs. 57,651 was derived from State Funds, and Rs. 11,048 from Municipal Funds.

There were 59 scholars who studied the technical subjects of Engineering, Medicine, Veterinary Science, Arts and Forestry, at Poona, Madras, Bombay and Dehra Dun. They received scholarships from the State amounting in all to Rs. 11,829. A Mysore scholar passed this year, for the first time in the history of the Madras University, the M. B. and C. M. Examination in the First Class. Another Mysore Scholar passed the L. C. E. Examination of the Bombay University in the First Class with the highest number of marks ever awarded, and won the guaranteed appointment of an Assistant Engineer in Bombay. Three Mysore scholars passed out of the Dehra Dun Forest School.

The total number of Girls' schools was 97. The total number under instruction was 10,025, being an advance of 24·4 per cent as compared with the previous year. The total amount spent on Girls' schools from all sources was Rs. 67,911.

An important change was made in the system of supervision over Girls' Schools throughout the Province. With a view to enable the local people directly interested in the success of female education to watch over the growth of the system and so direct it that every step taken in advance may have the sympathy and support of the Native community at large, the Government last year placed every Girls' school maintained from State Funds under the immediate supervision of local committees. The committees have been given large powers of management, and the initiative rests, in almost all cases, with them, subject to approval of Government. Female education cannot become firmly established in the country, until the people begin to look upon the education of their girls, whether children or adults, as necessary and as obligatory as that of their boys. The Government have thought that the best way of securing this result in the infancy of female education is to leave as much as possible to the intelligent and sympathetic guidance of local committees, Government reserving to itself the power of seeing that no departure is made from broad recognized general principles, in adapting either the system of studies or of discipline to local peculiarities and local prejudices.

Three important Girls' schools—the Maharani's Girls' school, Mysore, the Arya Balika Pathasala, Bangalore, and the Empress Girls' school, Tumkur—have, during the year, been added to the number of Government Girls' schools, and placed under the supervision of committees.

Her Highness the Maharani's Girls' School has undergone a thorough revision of its system of studies and management in the hands of the influential committee appointed to supervise it. This school which is already a popular Institution in the State, promises to become one of wide-spread usefulness. Five Brahmin ladies trained in the school have lately been appointed teachers in this school and others will be appointed to the remaining classes also, as capable lady teachers become available. A trained European lady will soon be sent for from England for charge of the teaching of the normal classes.

Among the special classes, the number of Muhammadans receiving education in all public institutions increased from 6,518 to 8,033 or by 23·2 per cent. There were moreover 2,152 Muhammadans reading in private institutions.

The Inspecting Staff has been recently reorganized. The number of Deputy Inspectors has been increased from four to eight, and the grade of Sub-Deputy Inspectors of Hobli schools has been abolished. Two Assistant Deputy Inspectors have been appointed for Hindustani schools and one for Kannada schools. The increase of cost is slight and the whole cost of inspection will hereafter be borne by the State Funds. It is hoped that the re organization of the Inspecting Staff, from which all incapable men have been weeded out, will give a great impulse to primary vernacular education.

Steps have been taken to form an Oriental Library of Sanskrit and Kannada works which will be located in the Victoria Jubilee Institute of Mysore. A collection will be made of the best published literature and of rare and useful manuscripts both in Sanskrit and Kannada. Copies will be obtained of such manuscripts as cannot be procured in original and steps will be taken to publish rare works in a uniform series.

Archæological Survey.—During the year, the Kolar District was completed, and the survey was extended over 7 taluks, nearly all in the extreme North-West Malnad. More than 1,500 inscriptions were secured, some of them of great interest and value.

One group confirms the traditions of the rule of the Gupta kings in the Mysore country. Another belongs to the Kadambas, while a third, found at the ancient Jain capital of Hombucha or Humcha, throws valuable light on ancient Jain ruling dynasties. And at the ancient capital of Balagami, the situation of the old Budhist monastery has been traced and an image discovered of Tara Devi.

Excise.—An important step in advance has been recently taken by the Government in regard to the management of the Toddy Revenue. Under the present system of Districtwar contracts, owing to the existence of a series of middlemen between the Government and the Contractor, the State does not derive its proper share of the revenue, and, owing to the want of sufficient control, the date groves are themselves deteriorating to such an extent as in some places to imperil the Toddy Revenue of the future and in many instances the quality of toddy supplied to the public is so bad as to drive many persons accustomed to this comparatively innocent drink to resort to the more harmful arrack. In order to remedy these defects, the Government recently issued orders for dividing each Taluk into a number of convenient farms. This measure, when successfully carried out, as I hope it will be, is likely to bring to the State a much larger revenue than heretofore, besides enabling the Government to conserve and improve the existing date groves and ensuring the supply of a more wholesome article to the consuming public.

I may in this connection refer also to the vexed question of the Inamdars' Toddy Revenue, with which the Representatives from the Mysore District especially are so well acquainted. The Government have decided to compensate every Inamdar entitled to the Toddy Revenue by means of a fixed ready-money Inam from the Government Treasury, the amount of such inam, where doubtful, being ascertained by separate farming or otherwise as Government in each case may decide.

I now come to touch upon a few special subjects of general interest. The first among them is the Census.

Census.—On 26th February last, a Census of the entire Province was taken. The system of enumeration adopted was that prescribed for the whole of India. Including the Civil and Military Station of Bangalore, the population returned was 4,943,079 as compared with 4,186,188 in 1881 and 5,055,412 in 1871. It will thus be seen that the increase during the last decade was very considerable nearly 18·08 per cent; but during the previous decade (from 1871 to 1881), about a million of the population had been swept away by the disastrous famine of 1876-77. The population at present has over one lakh still to make up to reach the figure of 1871.

Municipal Elections.—The Representatives from the Cities of Bangalore and Mysore will be glad to learn that His Highness has been pleased to direct the extension of the election system to their Municipalities with effect from April next. The qualification for a voter is fixed at either an annual house-rent of Rs. 30 or an annual payment of Rs. 10 as Municipal Mohatarfa and Land-taxes. The qualification for a Commissioner is fixed at an annual house-rent of Rs. 100 or an annual payment of Rs. 30 as taxes. In the case of graduates of Universities, half of the above amounts of taxes has been fixed. These limits will, it is expected, give for either city about 1,500 electors and 100 persons qualified to be elected. The measure as now sanctioned contemplates that one-half of the Municipal Commissioners should be elected by the Rate-payers, the other half being either *ex-officio* members or those appointed by the Government. Such a mixed constitution will, it is hoped, ensure

the executive efficiency of the respective Boards in the immediate future and at the same time place in the hands of the Rate-payers, through their elected representatives, not only the power to control all Municipal affairs but also by the good work done to establish their own claim to a larger share of representation.

Muzarayi Reform.—That reform in the management of the State Muzarayi (or religious and charitable) institutions is much needed has been pressed upon the attention of the Government in previous meetings of this Assembly, and I am now able to inform you that it has been decided to depute a specially qualified officer as Muzarayi Superintendent to enquire into the subject on the spot and to carry out the needed reform in the case of each institution, under the general or special orders of Government. These duties will occupy him probably for a period of 3 or 4 years, but when once all institutions are thoroughly reformed and placed upon a sound and efficient footing, the future management of them on the lines laid down will, as heretofore, have to be carried on by the local executive authorities.

The new Civil Service Scheme.—His Highness the Maharaja has, for some time past, experienced considerable difficulty in filling suitably the higher appointments of the Executive and Judicial service by selection from among the lower ranks, and he has accordingly resolved to adopt a system under which proper recruits, with a high and liberal education and with talents far above the average, could be admitted as Probationers and be trained in due course of time for the future wants of the service. The scheme contemplates a periodical competitive examination of the standard adopted in Madras for the selection of statutory civilians. The men who pass best at such examinations are to be admitted as Probationary Assistant Commissioners, an equal number being admitted by nominations made by His Highness the Maharaja from among members of old Mysore families and from distinguished officers of the subordinate service and generally with reference to such considerations as may commend themselves to His Highness. The members of the present Assistant Commissioners' grade will have rank and prospects of advancement to the higher grade, equal to those of the men admitted under the new system. It will thus be seen that our chief aim is to introduce into our service some new blood and talent which it at present so badly wants, as admitted by every one capable of forming any opinion upon the subject, and at the same time to safe-guard in every possible way the interests of the really competent in the present service, whether they are already Assistant Commissioners or are now only in subordinate appointments.

You will be glad to know that His Highness has further been pleased to direct the constitution of *four Sub-Divisions of Districts under separate Officers with the object as well of training future District Officers as of adding to the convenience of the people in the more distant Taluks.

*Sagar.
French Rocks.
Closepet.
Chikballapur.

Gentlemen, before concluding this address, I must refer to the apprehended failure of the rains and the consequent scarcity which threatened us during the last few months. It is a matter for sincere gratification that those apprehensions have now been allayed owing to the most seasonable rains we have had since the beginning of this month. Indeed, only a fortnight ago, the situation was regarded as so grave that orders were issued for throwing open the State Forests for free grazing, as also for the actual commencement, in parts of Chitaldroog and Tumkur, of Village Relief works in connection with our existing system for the repair of minor tanks. This was considered sufficient to deal with the earlier stages of the distress which threat-

ened and for a more aggravated condition of things necessitating works on a larger scale, a programme of works was got ready exactly on the same basis as that which I explained to you in my address of October 1885, in which year the agricultural outlook was precisely similar. Happily, the recent plentiful rains have removed al cause for present apprehension, and I only touch on the above proposals so that you may be aware of the action of the Government in the circumstances of the anxious time through which we have passed. I may also add, that, notwithstanding the heavy drain on our food stocks made by the distress in some Madras Districts and the temptation of the prevailing high prices, our raiyats have from all accounts not been unmindful of their duty to reserve sufficient stock for their own use against a possible rainless season and this provident self-restraint was beyond all praise and truly a matter for sincere congratulation.

MYSORE,
15*th October* 1891.

K. SHESHADRI IYER,
Dewan of Mysore.